

Blue), of a specimen collected in May 1961, showed fungal hyphae to be present.

In May 1961 I confirmed the presence of larvae in other nests of *Tumulitermes petilus* in the same area, four more larvae being collected. In August 1961 many empty pupal cases were found, and two larvae which were small and watery white in colour. They were very active and failed to develop in an observation jar.

I wish to thank Dr. S. J. Paramonov, Division of Entomology, C.S.I.R.O., Canberra, for identification of the adult flies, and Mr. F. Gay of the same institution for identifying the termites.

—PETER McMILLAN, Guildford.

Birds of Prey Observed During a Train Journey Across the Nullarbor Plain.—On December 5, 1961, I left Port Pirie by train in continuation of my journey from Melbourne to Perth. I did not awaken next morning until the train had passed Watson, but from then on, except for three short intervals for breakfast and lunch and for a sleep in between, I was looking out of the window to the north of the railway line continually. This was how I came to notice a number of birds of prey which (with one exception) seemed to be flying steadily east at fairly regular intervals. Except for the interruptions mentioned above I kept watch until 1800 hours, but saw no more birds after 1535 hours. The following is my record of the birds seen, except that I have omitted those which were too far away to be recognised.

Time (Western Standard)	Approximate Locality	No. of Birds	Species	Direction of Flight
0735-0846	Between Watson and Cook	c. 10	Australian Goshawk	East
0940	Between Hughes and Reid	1	Kestrel	East
1010	Between Reid and Forrest	Sev.	Kestrel	East
1055	Between Forrest and Mundrabilla	1	Kestrel	East
1100	Between Mundrabilla and Loongana	1	Wedge-tailed Eagle	West
1100	do.	2	Kestrel	East
1105	do.	2	Kestrel	East
1112	do.	1	Kestrel	East
1117	do.	1	Kestrel	East
No count until 1200 hours				
1200	Loongana	2	Kestrel	East
1225	Between Loongana and Nurina	2	Kestrel	East
1240	Between Nurina and Haig	2	Kestrel	East
		1	Australian Goshawk	East
		2	Brown Hawk	East
Lunchtime				
1330	Between Haig and Rawlinna	2	Whistling Eagle	East
1340	do.	1	Kestrel	East
1350	Between Haig and Rawlinna	2	Crow/Raven	East
1445	Between Naretha and Kitchener	1	Kestrel	East
1500	do.	Several Brown Hawks, Kestrels and Crow/Ravens perched on telegraph poles.		
1520	do.	1	Peregrine	Perched
1535	do.	1	Brown Hawk	Perched

The first entry "e.10" in the "Number of Birds" column relates to the period when I first began to notice the birds of prey but had not realized there was a steady passage. The record of "several" kestrels means that a number passed at once too quickly for an estimate of their number to be made.

—D. A. ROOK, Nedlands.

Recent Records of the Mardo (*Antechinus flavipes*) in South-Western Australia.—John Gilbert, during his field work on natural history in Western Australia between 1839 and 1843, found the Mardo or Yellow-footed Marsupial-Mouse (*Antechinus flavipes leucogaster*) to occur fairly commonly from the Moore River in the north to the vicinity of King George's Sound in the south (H. M. Whittell, *W.A. Nat.*, 4, 1954: 106). Subsequently the species underwent an eclipse in abundance and L. Glauert (*ibid.*, 4: 130) suggested that it had possibly become extinct as, at the time, no specimen had reached the W.A. Museum since 1939. B. J. Marlow (*Marsupials of Australia*, Brisbane, 1962: 18) reports it as probably extinct in Western Australia. In the eastern States the species appears to have remained quite plentiful (C. W. Brazenor, *The Mammals of Victoria*, Melbourne, 1950: 25; B. J. Marlow, *C.S.I.R.O. Wildlife Research*, 3, 1958: 80).

However, there are now several recent records from South-Western Australia, suggesting that this is yet another species of native mammal which has entered on a cycle of relatively greater abundance (*cf. W.A. Nat.*, 4, 1954: 128).

On February 3, 1953, the W.A. Museum accessed a female specimen from Kulin; it is now represented in the collections as a skull (W.A.M. No. 3450). On March 17, 1960, the Museum received a male specimen (M3983) collected by Mr. R. Lehmann six miles north of Cranbrook. On January 14, 1962, I collected two specimens at Two People Bay, east of Albany, a male (M4899) and a female (M4900). On June 11, 1962, the museum received a fresh male specimen (M5075) from Mr. K. S. Blond who obtained it one mile east of Cowaramup.

The two specimens collected by me were taken at the site where the Noisy Scrub-bird (*Atrichornis clamosus*) was recently rediscovered at Two People Bay (H. O. Webster, *W.A. Nat.*, 8, 1962: 57 and 81). One individual was seen running up the trunks of small trees (*Agonis flexuosa*) on the margins of a thickly vegetated fresh-water dune swamp and the second was seen with a small piece of bread in its mouth leaving a nearby corrugated-iron holiday cottage. Another was observed running with great facility in bursts of activity followed by short periods of inactivity along tree-branches and, in agile fashion, hopping about in the open. The species became active towards sunset. Several specimens of the Western Swamp Rat (*Rattus fuscipes*), whose runs are numerous in the swamps at Two People Bay, were also collected. Dr. and Mrs. Ride had also collected this rat at this locality in October 1959 in traps baited with bread.